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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1836.

The Crops in Pennsylvania.

A correspondent in the south-eastern part of Pennsylvania, writing on the 20th of last month, says, "Our wheat and Indian corn are very unpromising. The wheat insect, the grub-worm, and wire-worm have injured the crops considerably; and farmers will be obliged to turn their attention more to grazing than they have done heretofore.

"I procured half a bushel of *your* eight-rowed yellow corn for seed. It came up and grows well; but seed corn of my own raising *did not half grow.* We have been in the habit of *getting seed corn from the South;* but if we had procured it from the north, I believe we should have been much more successful with our crops.

"We have the prospect of a great deal of fruit. My plum trees were never better loaded; but the grape vines were much injured by the winter.

"We had a cold wet spring, and the same kind of weather continues. For a week past we have had very little sunshine; and our neighbors who mowed their grass ten days ago have lost it. It has been raining very fast all this day with very little intermission."

Predatory Birds.

We were not aware until within a few days, that THE CROW was amongst the plunderers of our cherry trees, though we have since observed its depredations in two distant parts of this district. Neither *Wilson* nor *Nuttall* mentions this propensity, except that the latter refers to its eating "fruits." It may readily be kept aloof however, by several kinds of "scare crows;" and it is the only bird, so far as we know, that can be frightened away from its plunder, in that manner.

The CEDAR BIRD is most likely known to to every proprietor of a cherry tree. *Wilson* very justly "ranks it among many more homely, and minute warblers;" but *Nuttall* calls it "a friendly, useful, and innocent visitor." We should as soon think of applying such epithets to a rat.

The Baltimore Oriole, another favorite of the learned professor's, is scarcely more deserving of our friendship. A gentleman informed us the other day, that it had destroyed all his early peas; and though we have not seen it attack the earlier cherries, it is very destructive on the later kinds, as well as on apricots, plums, and pears. This circumstance may be owing to its being engaged in the duties of incubation during the first mentioned period, for the *old* birds are more rarely observed on these plundering expeditions than the young fry, which may be readily known by the shrillness of their notes when they are under any alarm.

Notwithstanding all that has been said in favor of the Wood-pecker, it is very trying to the patience of him who sits under his own cherry tree, but scantily supplied with fruit, and observes their depredations above him; and we should not be at all surprised if an occasional shot should reach them. A few Robins and Cat-birds may be tolerated on account of their music; but when numerous, there is great danger of their being *thinned.*

And there are other birds that come within our class, which we have not seen noticed in print. We allude to the turkey, and to the hens of our barn-yards, when the limbs of the cherry tree are so low that they can easily fly into them. We have caught both kinds in our trees; and the chickens as soon as they become fully fledged, follow the example. A few feathers taken out of *one* wing however, leaving the other untouched, soon cures them of such flighty notions.

Summer Flowers.

(*In a letter of the 16th instant.*)

I sowed some seeds in the hot bed marked *Calliopsis bicolor* which proves to be the common *Coreopsis tinctoria,* introduced from regions west of the Mississippi by Professor Nuttall. Botanists claim the right to alter *generic* names whenever they please; but a stronger sense of propriety might induce them to spare the *specific* name, so that we might have some clue to the plants so honored by their labors.

Seeds of *Ceoropsis Atkinsoniana* were procured from England; and after setting a young plant in a sheltered place and protecting it through the winter it turns out to be only a very slight but inferior *variety* of the common *C. tinctoria.* Such impositions should be exposed.

Agrostemma cœli-rosa has the habit of a pink. It is the most delicate species of this genus that I have seen. The flower is very pretty, being a light red fading almost into white round the center. It is an annual.

Madia elegans has some resemblance to *Helenium autumnale* but it is more beautiful, though hardly enough so to merit its specific name. It belongs to the Linnæn class, Syngenesia. The flowers are more than two inches in diameter; the rays of a light yellow except near the disk, where the color is a reddish brown. These shrivel in the hot sunshine, and again expand in the evening. It is probably a perennial; only one of some half a dozen seedlings survived the winter, and this was in the open border. In a more open winter than the last however, I should be apprehensive for its safety, as the snow was a great protection.

Mimulus variegatus, M. Wheeleri, and *M. sulphureus* are very nearly allied, or rather appear to be only *varieties* of the same *species;* but they are flowers of great delicacy and beauty; and having short stems are well adapted to pots. Mine grow in a shaded border of rich vegetable mold. The tubes are dotted on the inside, like those of *M. guttatus,* but the expanding division or limbs of the flowers are finely colored: In *M. Wheeleri* of a dark crimson, but in the other kinds of different shades of purple. The tube of *M. sulphureus* is nearly white; the others, yellow.

My *Dahlias* now make a fine display.

Gilia tricolor is a very delicate species. Four or five flowers have a common peduncle but are not crowded together as in *G. achillæfolea* or *G. capitati.* The tube *below* has a tinge of yellow, *above* five very distinct markings of purple, and the limbs of a light blue are most delicately shaded with white. It is an annual.

Saffron.

From some few experiments which we have made in raising this article in the garden, and the demand for it among dyers and manufacturers, we think that the raising of it as an article of sale, might in some sections of our country be profitably entered upon. There are two plants called saffron, and both are used for dying; the principal difference seems to be, that one is much more productive than the other. The first is the *Crocus sativus,* or English saffron, is an annual, and produces about twenty pounds of the flowers (which are the only valuable part) to an acre, when dried ready for market. The other plant called saffron, is the *Carthamus tinctoria,* and is extensively known in this country and in Europe. It is a native of Asia, and is extensively used by the Chinese in giving their proverbially fine rose, scarlet, purple, and violet colors to their silks. In Germany it is much cultivated for the flowers, and is sown in good ground in rows eighteen inches apart, with four inches between the plants. In the garden it has produced at the rate of two pounds of the dried flowers to a rod of ground, but in the field a pound or a pound and a quarter might be considered the average. The price in market is someting variable, having been as high as twelve shillings per pound, and at other times but little more than half as much. The expense of cultivating it is not great, the gathering being the principal item, as it is calculated that for one month, when the plant is in flower, an acre will keep four or five girls constantly employed in gathering the blossoms. Estimating the quantity produced per acre at the lowest rate mentioned, and the price also at the minimum value, it is evident a very handsome

profit would remain, and in ordinary cases an extravagant one. As the flowering takes place in September, there could be no danger from frost, which sometimes so severely affects the other products of the farm. G.

Difference of Heat in Soils.

Farmers are frequently in the habit of speaking of cold soils, and warm soils, without perhaps inquiring at all into the cause of this difference in the farms they cultivate. That there is a good and sufficient reason in the materials which make the soil there can be no doubt, and as a knowledge of this would materially assist the operations of farming, an investigation, although imperfect, must be useful to the agriculturist. The surface of the earth receives alike the sun's rays, and of course the difference in temperature must be sought in some cause different from an unequal distribution of the sun's heat. We shall name one or two of the most probable of these causes. Wet soils are cold, because large quantities of heat are always carried off by evaporation. Hence moist clayey soils, those that have a hard substratum, or are based on hard-pan, which prevents the moisture from springs or the surface passing off readily, are usually cold. Soils which are dry, or which contain dark colored materials, as black sand or carbon, are usually warm, though the presence of carbonaceous matter is by no means a certain proof of warmth, as a moment's reflection will show. The black earth of our western country, called muck, and which was once considered one of the surest indications of good land, is principally formed of carbonaceous matter; yet it is now well understood that the formation of this substance is occasioned by its resting on a hard-pan, which prevents its incorporation with the earths, and thus forming soil, and is almost universally cold. That dark colored particles raise the heat of the earth in which they are found, is evinced by the practice of those who mix powdered charcoal with earth and manure for the purpose of raising melons which require an elevated temperature. Sandy soils owe their warmth principally to the fact, that little or no heat is carried from them by evaporation, the water falling on them soon sinking beyond the influence of the sun's rays. Apply these principles to plants, and the operation of these causes may be soon tested. Thus wheat will grow in soils clayey, based on hard-pan, and wholly unfit for corn—we do not say such soils are the *best* for wheat, for the fact is far different—while corn will prosper on soils and situations so dry and warm, that wheat will not grow at all. So with many other plants and roots cultivated by the farmer, and a knowledge of this adaptation of particular soils to particular plants, would frequently prevent much useless labor, and of course eventual loss. G.

☞ A subscriber in Pennsylvania, requests us to give a description of Shaw's patent Threshing Machine and Horse Power, which we shall do with pleasure if some one will furnish the description.

The Miami Exploring Company of Cincinnati, are about to establish a branch of that institution at Toledo. Capital $200,000.

Horticultural Meeting at Lyons.

On Wednesday the 6th inst., pursuant to notice, the summer meeting of the Ontario and Wayne Horticultural Society took place at Lyons.

The specimens of vegetables, fruits and flowers, were arranged in the large dining-room of the Lyons Hotel.

Pursuant to a resolution adopted at the preceding autumnal meeting of the society, the names of the competitors were not attached to the specimens presented, but were entered on a list in connection with a *number* for each specimen, and that number only was attached to the specimen; so that the committees, in examining the specimens, saw only the number. After the awards were all made, then the numbers on the specimens were compared with the numbers on the list, in connection with which were found the names of those to whom the premiums fell.

Furthermore, the committees, also in obedience to the resolution of last autumn, made their examinations and awards before the room was thrown open for exhibition, and while the specimens were, therefore, all in place and uninjured.

This method of conducting the business proved as satisfactory as it was obviously just and proper.

The season had been so unfavorable that the competitors were few—in fact but nine—and the exhibition, though comprising some very nice articles, was limited in its range. In consequence of these things, and of the small number of members present, only two committees were raised; one on *Fruits and Vegetables*, and the other on *Flowers*.

The report of the Committee on *Fruits and Vegetables*, was as follows:

For the best quart of ripe *strawberries*, $2, to A. L. Beaumont; for the next best, $1, to B. Whiting. Best qt. *raspberries*, $2, to B. Whiting; next best, $1, to J. Greig. Best qt. *cherries*, $2, to B. Whiting; next best, $1, to A. L. Beaumont. Best half peck *green peas*, $2, to J. Greig; next best, $1, to J. D. Bemis. Best half peck *string beans*, $2, to A. L. Beaumont; next best, $1, to A. Duncan. Best 100 shoots of *asparagus*, $1, to J. Greig; next best, 50 cts., to A. Duncan. Best doz. young *turneps*, $1, to Wm. H. Adams; next best, 50 cts., Wm. H. Adams. Best doz. *onions*, $1, to J. Greig. Best 25 young *potatoes*, $1, to A. L. Beaumont; next best, 50 cts., J. Greig. Best 3 *cabbage heads*, $1, A. Duncan. Best *lettuce*, $1, J. Greig; next best, 50 cts., J. D. Bemis. Best 25 *radishes*, $1, J. Greig; next best, 50 cts., B. Whiting. Best 6 *blood beets*, (long) $1, J. Greig; next best, (short) 50 cts., A. L. Beaumont. Best 6 *cucumbers*, $1, J. Greig; next best, 50 cts., B. Whiting. Best 1 doz. *carrots*, $1, J. Greig; next best, 50 cts. A. Duncan.

There were several fine specimens of *gooseberries* from the gardens of Messrs. Duncan, Whiting, and Adams; but they were not included in the list of fruits, for which premiums were offered; nor did they come within the scope of discretionary premiums, which were confined to culinary vegetables as commonly understood. The same may be said of two excellent specimens of winter apples, Greenings and Spitzenbergs, kept over, from Mr. Greig's trees; and a choice specimen of squashes and artichokes from Mr. Duncan's garden; to none of which premiums were awarded, though they were all entitled to favorable notices.

The Committee on *Flowers* reported as follows: First premium on *Carnations*, (seedling varieties,) to Mrs. A. Duncan, $1. Second, (6 sorts,) Mrs. Balmanno, 50 cents. First premium for *Moss Roses*, Mrs. Balmanno, $1. Second for do. 50 cts. to Mrs. B. Whiting. For *wild flowers*, (discretionary) W. S. Dell. For *Dahlias*, 1st premium, to Mrs. B. Whiting; 2d, to Mrs. Wm. H. Adams. For *Boquet*, 1st premium, to Mrs. Balmanno; 2d, to Mrs. S. M. Hopkins. Also a discretionary premium for a most rich and varied *boquet*, (30 kinds,) Mrs. B. Whiting; another to W. S. Dell, and another, for several new varieties, very beautiful, to Mrs. A. Duncan.

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at Geneva, the day to be fixed by a Committee of Arrangements to consist of Messrs. Fellows, Whiting, Hopkins, De Zeng, and Langdon, who are to fix the premiums, and make all the necessary arrangements for the meeting.

An excellent dinner was prepared at the Lyons Hotel, at which, among other good things served up, was a boiled cat-fish from Lake Ontario, which weighed 14 lbs.—an uncommonly large one of that species, for this part of the country, though in the Mississippi and Red River of Louisiana, they often exceed 100 lbs.

The day was fair, and the meeting, though not numerous, was pleasant.—*Ontario Repository.*

From the New York Farmer.

Successful Farming.

We ask the attention of our readers to the following communication of Mr. BEMENT, of Albany. It ought certainly to convince those who ridicule the idea of deriving instruction from *agricultural publications*, that they are not without their use and value. They must certainly admit that even a *printer*, with the aid of agricultural papers, good sense, and proper care, can at least "make that two ends meet, which is as much as many do who have enjoyed the superior advantages of a long apprenticeship to agricultural labor—and which they seem to think renders further instruction unnecessary—whereas in truth, they are then only just preparing to learn by *reading, reflection* and *experiment*.

The "lesson" of the "grandfather" should be learned and practiced upon by every farmer in the country.

Mr. Bement is always ready and pleased to exhibit his stock of cattle, sheep, and hogs, to those who take an interest in such animals, and also to explain his mode of farming; and he enjoys superior advantages for *demonstrating* the excellence of the productions of his farm, in serving them up, in superior style, at his HOTEL in State-street, to those who are so fortunate as to make his house their home while in Albany.

—

MR. MINOR—In my letter to you of January 27th, 1835, I said, "my farming operations have necessarily been very limited," &c. &c. Another season has passed, and I embrace a few leisure moments to give you some account of my success, on the same farm; not, however, in the way of boasting, but to show you that I have not been unsuccessful. The farm consists of 110 acres, and put down in the tax-book second and third-rate land—80 acres in cultivation, and the remainder wood, of which I only had the privilege of cutting for fencing. Rent four hundred dollars per annum.

It was considered by many as a very high rent,—a very hazardous undertaking, and that I never should get enough off to pay rent and meet expenses; which, in fact, was the case the first year, as I was minus two hundred and thirty dollars. I could, however, account for it, in repairing and altering the stables for my cattle, building pig-stye, digging well, draining, repairing, and making new fences, drawing manure from the city,—the benefits of which I received the next year. Of my success you can form an opinion from the statement below. For certain reasons I have withheld the nett proceeds. Suffice to say, I have made up the deficit, and added to my capital.

I am a mere novice in farming—I am by profession a printer—it is new business to me—I have much to learn, and what little I do know I am indebted to agricultural publications, and to lessons derived from Mr. Buel, and other eminent farmers, whom I am proud to number among my acquaintance.

The question is often asked me, "Where did you imbibe your notions and taste for farming?" My answer is, "When a boy eight or nine years of age, I used to 'ride horse' for my grandfather to plough corn, and if perchance I should allow 'old dobbin' to tread upon a hill of corn, look out for a lump of earth at the urchin's head!!" He is now dead and gone—but the lessons he taught

me are still fresh in my memory. He was a good farmer—he had a time for every thing, and every thing must be done in time—a place for every thing, and every thing in its place. His fences were always in good order—his buildings in good repair. His stock fed regularly, and at regular hours; not feeding surfeit one day, and half starving them the next. In short, he had a system, and followed it strictly—and *made money by farming too!!* His pork barrel and granery were never empty. He never ran up accounts with the merchants, nor run in debt because his credit was good. He lived to a good old age; and died, as he lived, an honest man. Peace to his ashes.

On looking over my sales book, I find the following articles passed to the credit of the farm:

Cattle, consisting of 1 cow and 7 calves, (Durham Short Horn,)	$825 00
Sheep, consisting of bucks, ewes, and lambs, for breeding,	615 00
Pigs, principally for breeders,	276 00
Milk sold, besides feeding the calves,	157 80
Pasturing cattle and horses, exclusive of my own stock,	136 13
Potatoes sold for family use,	612 69
Ruta Baga turneps, 487 bushels, at 50 cents per bushel,	248 50
Barley, 100 bushels, at 80 cents,	80 00
Millett, including the straw, which I think equal to hay,	71 00
Buckwheat, 24 bushels, at 50 cents,	12 00
Oats, 150 bushels, at 50 cents,	75 00
Hay, 12 tons, at $17½ per ton,	210 00
	$3,317, 12

In the above I have made no account of what remains on hand, nor of what was consumed on the farm. My potatoe crop was a good one, amounting to over 2300 bushels, and all of the choicest kinds, for table use, and which are less prolific than the more common sort. My hay crop was not as good as the year previous; and I was not alone in that, for very few of the best cultivated farms in this county gave over half a crop.

In July last, I purchased of S. Hawes, Esq., a farm, consisting of 184 acres of land, formerly the property of Judge Spencer, lying 3½ miles west of this city, where, should my life and health be spared, my future efforts will be directed, principally in rearing superior animals for sale—such as cattle, sheep, and swine; and hope, by unremitted care and attention, to deserve a share of public patronage. My cattle are of the pure "Improved Durham Short Horned" breed; sheep of the "South and Hampshire Down," "New Leicester," and "Merino" breeds; swine of the "Imported Berkshire," "Improved China,"—some females of the "Mackey" and "Mocho," which I am crossing with my Berkshire and China. I have also made arrangements to procure the "Bedford;" and it is my intention to procure the best breeds our country affords, so that I can test their peculiar and individual qualities, by comparison and demonstration; keeping each breed pure, as well as experimenting by crossing with the different varieties.

No animal on the farm has been more generally neglected than the hog, and it is my opinion no animal will pay better, with proper care and attention to breed, for the expense incurred. But they require care and attention, which farmers and laborers are too apt to neglect.

Fearing I may trespass too much on your time, as well as that of your readers, I will conclude by promising you, should it be agreeable, an account of my success in cultivating the ruta baga.

Very respectfully, yours, &c. &c.

CALEB N. BEMENT.

Bement's Hotel, Albany, March, 1836.

To Cure the Big Head in Horses.

Take one quart of hog's lard, one quart of tar, and one pound of sulphur of brimstone; put all together in a pot over a slow fire, and boil it till the brimstone disappears; then make a mop on a strong stick, and rub the horse's head from the eyes to the nostrils once a day until the mixture is all gone, and it will make a cure. I have tried one horse and did cure him sound and well. If you think the receipt worthy your attention, you can put it in your Register, with my name.

RICHARD B. HARRISON.

Dallas co., Alabama, April 19, 1836.

From the Maine Farmer.

"What Farmers may be."

MR. HOLMES—Your interesting correspondent, "J. H. J." under the above title, in the last Farmer, lays down three distinct propositions, showing in substance that farmers *may* be the most learned, and the most influential class of men in the world. Under each proposition he has adduced several good reasons in support of them, and I can most cheerfully assent to all that he has said upon the subject. But while I am so ready to give in my adhesion to his doctrine, I am inclined to think he will find it not an easy task to induce any considerable portion of them to carry out in *practice* what he has so correctly laid down in *theory*.

The occupation of a farmer certainly requires the "most vigorous exercise of the physical powers of the body," and if you cannot induce a man to adopt that system of labor, which shall render the exercise of these powers productive of the greatest amount of ultimate good, you can hardly expect to convince him, that he may become one of the most learned and influential men in the world.

If I may be permitted to advance an opinion, I will say that, judging from daily observation, it would seem that many believe the exercise of mental and physical powers have no connection in the business of husbandry, that our fathers and grandfathers *thought* all that was necessary *to think* upon the subject, and that nothing remains for us to do but work, work, work, without even *thinking* that we have power to *think*.

Therefore, if we would lay a "firm basis on which to build up their minds in wisdom and knowledge," we must first convince them that the course pursued by our fathers and grandfathers in relation to husbandry, is by no means the best course.

Convince them that in general a small farm is better than a large one.

Convince them that a little well tilled, is better than much half tilled.

Convince them that two loads of manure is better than one, and every load judiciously applied is better than a silver dollar.

Convince them that three good cows are better than half a dozen poor ones, and so of all other stock.

Convince them that raising their own bread stuff and a little to sell, is far better than "going to New York to mill."

Convince them that two blades of grass may easily be made to grow, where only one grew before.

Convince them that experiment is the mother of improvement, and improvement the true source of wealth.

Convince them of these simple TRUTHS, and induce them to practice accordingly, and the work is done.

You will then bring *mind* and *body* to act in unison. You will elevate the husbandman to his natural sphere in the scale of existence. You will place him in the road to higher eminence. He will *think* for himself, he will be learned, he will be wise, he will be wealthy and influential.

May 7, 1836. CAROLUS.

Raising of Chickens.

The subject upon which I am about to write, may excite a smile upon the faces of some, but if I succeed in rendering even a small service to any, the object will be accomplished. He thinks he may throw out a few hints that may be useful in increasing the number and quality of an animal that is so universally made to conduce to the luxury of the table, and the proper sustenance of the human system.

In the first place, then, I would advise those interested to procure for themselves a good breed of fowls. The pair I sent you last fall, I consider nearer to perfection, in all respects, than those of any other breed. I call them the ostrich, breed, from their strong resemblance, when about half grown, to that famous bird. They are large—their habits are very domestic—they lay well—set well—hatch well—and nurse well—and their flesh is very delicious. Have a well sheltered place for them to roost in, with a sufficient number of places for them to lay their eggs. Let your box be about a foot wide, and about fifteen inches high—with partitions about ten inches apart. The box to be enclosed on every side, with the exception of about six inches of the front, and that the upper part—place the box enough against the wall to prevent the depredations of children, &c. The hen is fond of a small aperture to creep into for the purpose of laying. At the proper setting season remove your eggs carefully every night into a safe place, to prevent their freezing or getting much chilled, which will prevent their hatching. No "nest egg" is necessary upon this plan. The nest egg, in my opinion seldom produces a chicken early in the spring, because of its generally having been chilled.

While the laying business is very brisk, prepare as many setting boxes as you may think fit. Let them be about eighteen inches square, enclosed on every side, with a loose cover for the top, not so tight as to shut out the air; put hay or straw enough in to form a nest, in which you may place about thirteen eggs—put the hen in the box and lay on the cover, with a weight sufficient to prevent her from knocking it off. You may confine her without any injury, for three or four days, at the expiration of which time you may take off the cover, and leave her until she hatches—which, almost every body knows, will be in exactly twenty-one days from the commencement. The advantages of the large box are these: It gives room to move round without breaking the eggs, and the little ones a chance of coming out without the danger of their running away. When hens set on the ground or in unprotected places, they are subject to be interrupted by animals, and when two or three chicks are strong enough to run they leave the nest, and the mother, following them, leaves the half-hatched to perish. This is a great loss to time, eggs, and chickens.

As the warm season advances, always endeavor to set three hens at exactly the same time—they will consequently hatch at the same time, and you can then divide the chickens of the three between two, and they can generally take care of more than they can well hatch, if properly managed.

Make as many moveable coops as you think necessary, with a shed roof and slats in front, which place in some safe place from hogs, in the sun—the sun is very invigorating to young chickens. The hen and chickens should be fed with corn meal, wet with water and milk, three times a day, and watered at least once. The hen should be kept confined in this way at least for a week, to prevent her from leading them into the wet grass in the morning, which is very prejudicial to their well being. At the expiration of that time, if the weather is good, you may place a block under one corner of the coop and let them out; at night they will return and take possession again, when you should take away the block, and keep them in again until the dew is off the grass. If the weather is unpleasant keep them in all day.

When the chickens acquire more size and strength they should be fed in what is called a "chicken feeder," which is a covered enclosure six or eight feet square, with slats just close enough together to admit the chickens, and exclude the older fowls.

Each of my hens last year raised to perfection, on an average, at least twenty chickens. They each raised two broods, and several hatched three times.

When the chickens are taken from one hen and given to another, the one from which they are taken should be confined for about a week, and then set at liberty, when she will soon commence producing another family.—*Ohio Farmer*.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Farmer A. or the Rolling Stone.

"The stone that is rolling will gather no moss."

The world is a world of contrasts, and in no part of it are more striking ones exhibited than exist among farmers. Some seem to be mere cumberers of the earth, and impart their dull, half animated aspect to every thing around them; there are others who seem to impart gladness and freshness wherever they move. One belonging to the first class lately fell under my notice, and his portrait may be given as the representative of much too large a class of men among us. I shall call him farmer A. Traveling is to me a kind of penance; but it frequently places one in situations, and among people, favorable for observation; and a farmer myself, and deeply interested in every thing that relates to their prosperity, their business and their prosperity naturally engross my first attention.

I had been directed to Mr. A. as an individual who wished to dispose of his farm, and circumstances rendered it necessary to remain with him through the night. The first aspect of the premises was gloomy and forbidding enough. The "shingled palace," as foreigners delight to call our extravagant two-story wooden houses, had been put up three years before, yet it exhibited few indications that it would ever be finished. The windows were "glazed with boards," one or two excepted, in which a single sash contained a few panes of glass. There were in the rear of the house a few scattering, sorry looking, scrubby trees standing, the remains of an orchard planted by a former proprietor; and I observed some dozen or so of coarse wooled, wild looking sheep, gently browsing a row of currant bushes, that from their diminutive size and stunted appearance, looked as though they were accustomed to a similar operation, while a straggler or two had commenced pruning the only plum tree visible on the premises. There was what was called a barn and sheds on the farm, but a horse was standing with his head poked through an opening made by a fallen off board, and which board lay half covered and rotting in the dung, the sharp nails sticking up ready to pierce the foot of man or beast; and half the roof of one of the sheds had fallen in from sheer neglect in securing the rafters properly. Not an ornamental tree of any kind was near the house; not a fence was discernible except the ghosts of some rail fences; and a dreary community of desolation seemed equally to pervade every part.

Farmer A. came originally from "down east," but his long absence from that part of the country, added to the circumstances in which he had placed himself, and his acquired habits, had left in him but few traces of the character that usually marks the provident and intelligent New-Englander. Five times since his marriage had he moved, and though he had lived longer where he then was than in any other place, it being nearly ten years, he was then anxious and preparing to pull up stakes and depart to Michigan or Illinois. His farm was naturally an excellent one, well watered and timbered, and precisely that kind of soil that makes the heart of the wheat grower rejoice, but its whole surface bore sad marks of neglect and improvident husbandry.

Farmer A. was not at home when I arrived, but his wife was present. She was undoubtedly once a good looking, amiable woman, but care and neglect had made serious inroads upon her constitution, and, as is too often the case, somewhat tried and deranged the equanimity of her temper. Every one knows however there are men with whom no woman, unless possessed of more than the patience of Job, could live with any degree of peace or comfort; and it is no more than fair to infer that Mr. A. was precisely one of these men. To or three large awkward girls, and some half a dozen boys, none of them looking remarkably neat or intelligent, made up the family. Soon after the family had taken supper, farmer A. came home, and a single glance at him showed, what indeed his farm had sufficiently indicated before, that he was a devout and not unfrequent worshiper at the shrine of Bacchus, and that great as the triumphs of temperance have been, they had not as yet reached him.

Mr. A. had hardly finished his supper, when he began to complain of the hardness of the times, and the great difficulty he found in supporting his numerous family; adding, he believed he must sell out and go to the west, where he could get more land, and live without so much hard work; a reason, by the by, very frequently used, yet but little understood. Wishing to draw him into a little detail of his farming management, I inquired how much land he then owned. He replied, "a little more than two hundred acres." "And how much have you cleared?" "Perhaps two-thirds of the whole," he said. "Your land has every indication of fine wheat land, and with so much in cultivation, your wheat crop this year must have been heavy, and with such prices as wheat commands, farmers should not complain of hard times." "My land is good enough," he answered, "but this year I was unlucky in my wheat. I did not sow it till quite late; my seed had some chess in it; the fence around the fields was rather low; my cattle and horses would get into them in spite of me; where they nibbled it off the wheat turned to chess, and at harvest I had but little more than enough to supply my family." "But part of your farm is first rate corn land; perhaps your loss in wheat was made up in your corn, and that you know is worth seventy-five cents a bushel." "No, there again my dish was bottom upwards,"—"I think it always is," said his wife in a *sotto voce* tone, calculated to reach me however distinctly, but he did not notice the interruption,—"I had a dozen pigs, and after my corn had been up a week and looked well, that lazy lout," pointing to his eldest son, "whom I had ordered to watch the field, let the pigs lie in it a week, and they destroyed it, root and branch. It was too late to replant, and if I had done that, the frost would have prevented my having more than half a crop; so you see I have not a bushel of corn this year." "But your potatoes?" "My potatoes, with the exception of a few that were injured by the pigs, were passable; but after they were dug and placed in heaps, and while I was waiting to get time to cover them, the boys let the cows get to them, where they eat till one of them was choked to death, and she must stroll off and die where we did not find her till the hogs had torn her, skin and all, to pieces." "Do you have much of a dairy?" I inquired. "No—there is but little profit in making butter and cheese, though some of my neighbors think differently. My boys and girls don't love to milk, so you see the cows, if I had them, would quickly dry up, and the whole concern be good for nothing. I am convinced, as I told you before, that this is no place for me; I must go to the west."

While I was conversing with their father, the girls sat staring at us, and doing nothing, while I perceived that two or three of the boys had got into a corner, and were amusing themselves with a greasy and evidently much used pack of cards. As the evening was quite cool, one of the boys was ordered by the father to get some wood. "There aint a single stick," answered the boy, without turning his head from his play. "Where's that load of rails you got yesterday morning?" "Every stick is burnt, and mother picked up wood this afternoon for a fire," responded the urchin. "Well, you young dog, give us none of your jaw; but go and back a rail, and cut it up quick, and let us have some fire." The rail was brought, cut up, and before ten o'clock we had seen the last of it; nor was it longer a mystery how the house came to stand in an unclosed common. He had burnt the rails, because he had rather be at the tavern than getting wood, and because he was going to Michigan. The want of rails had made his creatures unruly, and caused the destruction of his wheat and corn, while his children, kept from school to watch his fields, had become as idle and worthless as their parent. While he should have been attending to affairs at home, covering his potatoes and saving his cow, he was swallowing "wet damnation," and his property was in the predicament of a candle lighted at both ends. Farmer A. will go to the west, but unless he effects a prompt and thorough reformation, he will carry with him habits which will ever prevent the accumulation of property; and a family in which idleness and ignorance have already sown the seeds of a plentiful harvest of misery, crime and wretchedness.

A Traveler.

Breaking Vicious Cows.

BY C. P.

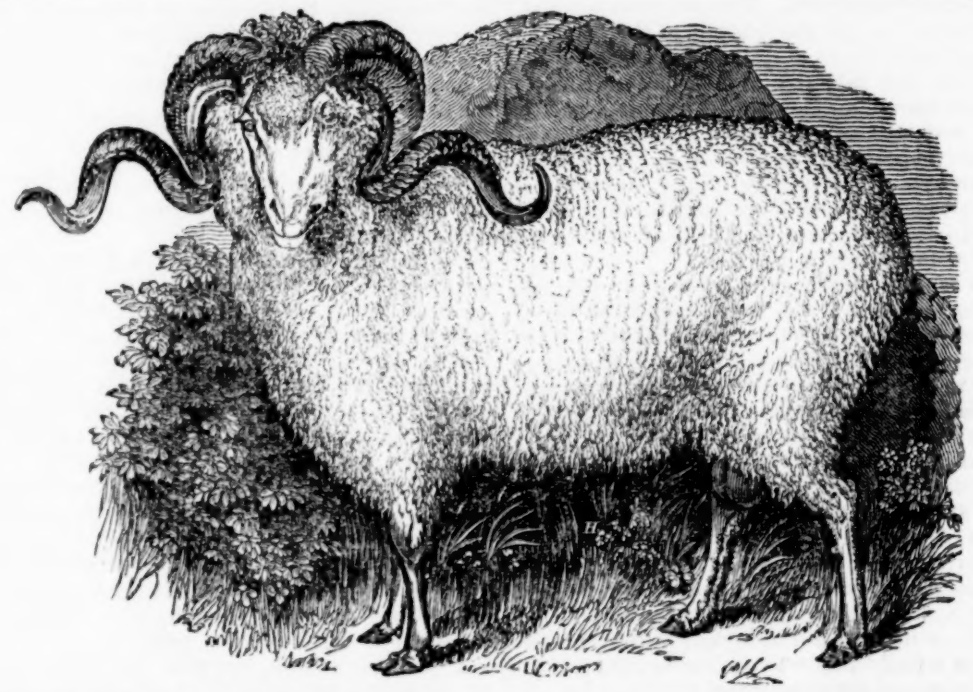
Mr. Tucker—I noticed an article in the 27th No. of the Genesee Farmer, describing the manner in which a "vicious cow" was reclaimed. I think such instances very rare, for I have known many men to possess vicious cows for years, who never read nor never thought of their being reclaimed; it was the same thing year after year. They thought as much before hand of the job of attending to them, as of any other work they had to do. Milking, as far as my experience has extended, is considered one of the most, if not the most, unpleasant chores there is to be performed about a family, and above all things a kicking cow is to be dreaded. She is always worse in the worst weather, and one is in danger at every milking-time of losing all the profits of his labor, unless he can content himself to go through with some operation of making her secure where she can do no injury.

I should be very much in favor of breaking vicious cows when it is practicable, but I believe the attempt is seldom successful. I think it is the best way generally to dispose of them for beef, unless a man has a very valuable one, which will well recompense the labor of keeping her. But such an animal as a vicious cow a man never ought to *raise*—there is no need of it. If one necessarily comes upon his hands already made vicious, he is not to blame. I have long thought that there was a great defect in the mode which some farmers use to break their young cows. We never should undertake to milk a heifer out in the lot, or in a corner either of the open field or of the barn-yard, where there is any chance for her to escape, and oblige us to have a *race* before we can again go on with the operation of milking. One such attempt may spoil her for a gentle cow, for she will long recollect it, and will be doubly worse to manage the next time. I have heretofore passed by farm-houses, and seen two or three great lusty fellows to work in this way, paraded around a corner of the yard, each holding some sort of a cudgel in his hand, raised over the apparently harmless young heifer, while she stands to be milked, half scared, and trembling prodigiously for fear of the expected blow. Now this is all wrong, and entirely unnecessary. They very much mistake the nature of the creature—she is not so to be tamed. It is the regular course to make her vicious and ungovernable, and it will need but a few such operations.

I will suggest a plan which I invariably followed for four or five years with triumphant success, and when I changed my occupation, transmitted it to my successor with a special charge not to depart from it—during which time, and since which, (for I have been an eye witness of its faithful fulfilment,) I did not know, nor have not known, one single subject of its operation but what was or has been of the most harmless and peaceful disposition, so that man and boy, woman and girl, all, could perform the task of milking with equal ease and in equal security, either as it respects themselves or their pail of milk. And in such a case, every cow must not have her particular milker, whom when he is necessarily absent, or in any wise rendered incapable of performing this his ordinary labor, it requires two or three a half of an hour with clubs and stones, racing to and fro across the yard, to obtain her milk, or else she must go unmilked until her former master returns, or is sufficiently recovered to again enter upon his task. Some may have been acquainted with the plan long ago, but many to my knowledge do not now know it, or if they do, do not practice it:—Drive the heifer and her calf carefully into the shed or stable, tie one end of a rope loosely around her horns, fasten the other end firmly to some post or staple, giving her a short play, and there let her stand. Mind and not take her into any strange place, where cattle are not used to going. If she was accustomed to be led when a calf she will stand still, if not, she will flounce around very briskly a short time at the length of the rope, but soon finding by experience that all is fast, she will immediately cool down. Then place before her a little mess, and commence milking while she is eating. Let there be no whip about—let there be no noise or blows, but every movement around her gentle and still. When the operation is completed, carefully untie her, open the door and let her out. One person is sufficient for the whole. Two is one too many, especially if she is a little wild, which however ought never to be known among a farmer's cattle. She is now a cow, subdued and manageable,—all it requires is a few more such lessons, and I have the confidence to believe, from some experience too, that with a proper milker she will ever afterwards remain a gentle cow. She will be perfectly tame, so that you can lead her as well as a horse, and approach her in the field as well as in the yard.

There is a fault with some of our farmers in trusting the breaking of their heifers, and in fact the whole care of their cows, to boys. As a general thing they are not competent to perform the labor as it should be performed. It is often the case that they will get fretful while milking, and punish the cow most unmercifully when it is not due. The man should keep an eye to these things, and see that all goes on in a proper manner. There is one universal fact occurs, and to which I presume hundreds can witness, when the management of the milk-yard is solely in the hands of boys—an immense deal of rubbish, clubs, broken rails, and strips of boards, and especially stones in abundance, may be seen scattered all over the yard, and in case one wishes to correct his cow, he finds every thing in readiness. I have before now seen loads of such rubbish collected around farm-yards, and truly it does not present a very neat looking appearance. Those farmers, therefore, who cannot well take the management of these affairs to themselves, if they wish to have their cows thrive, keep in good order, and gently treated, are advised to keep their yards clear of all these weapons, so as to remove even the temptation to evil. And nothing will give a stranger a better opinion of a farmer as he passes by, than to see every thing look neat and clean around his dwelling and barns. From this circumstance he will draw the inference, that it is so all over his farm, and he will always call that man a *neat* farmer.

H———e, July 16, 1836. C. P.



Spanish Merino vs. Saxon Merino.

We have given full scope to the controversy touching the relative merits of these two kinds of merino sheep, for they are both from the same parent stock, till some of our readers complain of its being rather an uninteresting topic. Men will commend what they best succeed with, and sometimes, and not improperly, what they wish to sell. It is admitted that the Saxons have the best wool; but this is obtained, say the advocates for the Spanish stock, at the expense of carcase and hardiness of constitution. We can well remember, that a strong prejudice obtained against the Spanish merinos on their first introduction, and it was not until within a few years that their reputation for usefulness became well established among us. This prejudice was in some measure owing to a want of knowledge of the proper mode of treating them, and to their change of climate, which caused the loss of many, and the deterioration of others. The same prejudice has had to be combated in other countries, on the introduction of merino sheep, as in Prussia, Silesia, Hungary and France, and it has required the persevering exertions of distinguished individuals, and the patronage of the governments, to overcome it. But it has been overcome, and the merinos have obtained a footing and a reputation in most of the countries of Europe; and by careful attention to improvement, in several they have been made to excel, in intrinsic value, the parent flocks of Spain. French merinos, at the public sales at Rambouillet, in 1834, sold, rams at about $100, and ewes at $50. They were of course select animals. The writer on sheep, in the Farmers' Series, which has just come to hand, speaking of the relative merits of the Saxon and Spanish merinos, says in strong language, "*The Saxony sheep are decidedly superior to those brought immediately from Spain, not only in their wool, but their general form and propensity to fatten.*" Without a particle of interest to influence our opinion, we do not hesitate to say, that we consider the introduction of the Saxon merino as a valuable acquisition to our husbandry, but by no means to the exclusion of the Spanish merinos. And we are also persuaded, that by adopting the Saxon mode of improvement, the Spanish merinos may be made to yield as fine a fleece here as they have in Saxony. The Spanish merino has not degenerated in any country, that we have heard of, where he has received proper attention. It is not climate so much as care, that causes the shades of difference.—There are good and bad Spanish, and bad Saxon merinos; and the bad opinion of the latter, we mistrust, has arisen from the fact, that in the fever of speculation, many inferior Saxons were imported, and bought up by men who were not competent judges, and that these inferior animals

have tended to bring into disrepute the whole family.

We give above the figure of a Saxon buck, and an extract giving the history of their introduction from Spain, their treatment, and improvement, which cannot fail to interest our wool growers, and to eradicate unreasonable prejudices which in some cases certainly exist.

"The Elector of Saxony ranks among the first who patriotically and wisely devoted himself to the improvement of the inferior breed of sheep which pastured on the neglected plains of Germany, The indigenous Saxon breed resembled that of the neighboring states: it consisted of two distinct varieties, one bearing a wool of some value, and the other yielding a fleece applicable only to the coarsest manufactures.

"In 1765, at the close of the seven years' war, the Elector imported one hundred rams and two hundred ewes from the most improved Spanish flocks, and placed a part of them on one of his own farms, in the neighborhood of Dresden; this portion he kept unmixed. He endeavored to ascertain how far the pure Spanish breed could be naturalized in Saxony. The other part of the flock were distributed on other farms, and devoted to the improvement of the Saxon sheep.

"It was soon sufficiently evident to the enlightened agriculturist that the merinos did not degenerate in Saxony; many parcels of their wool were not inferior to the choicest fleeces of Leon. The best breed of the native Saxons was also materially improved. The prejudice against every innovation, on the practice of their ancestors, was, however, as strong in Saxony as elsewhere, and the majority of the sheep-masters were still averse to the improvement, but the Elector was determined to accomplish his object; he imported an additional number of the Spanish sheep, and then, adopting a measure unworthy of such a cause, he compelled those who occupied land under him, to buy a certain number of the merino sheep.

"It was not necessary long to pursue this compulsory system: the most prejudiced were soon brought to perceive their true interest. The pure merino breed rapidly increased in Saxony: it became perfectly naturlized; nay, after a considerable lapse of years, the fleece of the Saxon sheep began not only to equal the Spanish, but to exceed it in fineness and manufacturing value.

"By referring to page 155, it will be perceived that a sample of picklock merino wool was 1,750ths of an inch in diameter, and exhibited 2,560 serrations in the space of an inch; while the Saxon wool (see page 89) was only 1-840ths of an inch in diameter, and presented 2,720 serrations of an inch. Corresponding with this, and most satisfactorily illustrative of the account which has been given of the structure of the fibre of wool and its felting property, and manufacturing value as a dependant on that structure, the price—the true test of value—of the best Leonese Spanish wool in 1834, varied from 2s. 6d. to 4s., while that of the Saxon was from 4s. 9d. to 5s. 3d. per pound.

"The government of Saxony very materially contributed to this result by the establishment of an agricultural school, and other minor schools for shepherds, and by distributing certain publications which plainly and intelligibly explained the value and proper management of the merino sheep. The government may fail to accomplish many capricious or tyranical objects, but it will receive its best reward in the full accomplishment of its purpose, when it thus identifies itself with the best interests of its subjects.

"The above is a portrait of a Saxon merino ram, the property of Lord Western, and used by him extensively and beneficially in the improvement of his Spanish merinos. It will be seen that his frame differs materially from the Spanish merino; there is more roundness of carcass and fineness of bone, and that general form and appearance which indicate a disposition to fatten, and are tolerably certain pledges that the carcass will not be entirely sacrificed to the fleece.

"In Saxony, as in Silesia, although the sheep are housed at the beginning of winter, yet they are turned out and compelled to seek, perhaps under the snow, a portion of their food whenever the weather will permit; and the season must be unusually inclement in which they are not driven into the courts at least for two or three hours during the middle of the day. The doors and windows are also frequently opened, that the sheep houses may be sufficiently ventilated.—Some sheep masters, whose convenience is promoted by such a system, keep their flock in a house or yard during the whole of the year, and it is not believed that the sheep suffer from this, either in their health, or in the fineness of their fleece. A great quantity of salt is usually given to the Saxon sheep, and principally during the summer, either in their drink or sprinkled among the fodder.

Very great care is taken by the Saxon sheep-master in the selection of the lambs which are destined to be saved in order to keep up the flock; there is no part of the globe in which such unremitting attention is paid to the flock. Mr. Charles Howard, in a letter with which he favored the author, says, that "when the lambs are weaned, each in his turn is placed upon a table that his wool and form may be minutely observed. The finest are selected for breeding and receive a *first* mark. When they are one year old, and prior to sheering them, another close examination of those previously marked, takes place; those in which no defect can be found, receive a *second* mark, and the rest are condemned. A few months afterwards, a third and last scrutiny is made, the prime rams and ewes receive a *third* and and final mark, but the slightest blemish is sufficient to cause the rejection of the animal. Each breeder of note has a seal or mark secured to the neck of his sheep, to detach or forge which is considered a high crime, and punished severely."

Cultivator.

Agriculture in Italy.

Mr. Editor,—Since you desire it, I resume my account from Chateauvieux, on the Agriculture of Lombardy.

Before I continue my extracts, however, allow me to enforce attention to one especial point of comformity between Italian cultivation, and that which is the true course of our own. Of the former one of the leading excellences lies in the skilfully multiplied objects of production, which it is made to embrace. As a general rule, the warmer the climate, the more varied the culture may be made: and the greater is the scope for improving the soil and augmenting and diversifying its fruits, by the intermixture and succession of crops. In no country has less art been applied to those matters, than in our own: in few countries, I am persuaded, is so much practicable, in this species of improvement, as under our genial sky and with the fine soil of our alluvial country.

I cannot but think, too, that the Italian economy of employing oxen, for draft and the plough, might well be introduced, to a considerable extent. In hardiness and in the cheapness of their food, the mule may be equally commendable. But the outlay of capital is, for the oxen, far less; their breeding is far easier and cheaper: In what relates to the forming of manures, they are much to be preferred; and besides, the milk and butter of a well kept herd, there is some account to be made of the food into which the superannuated ones may always be turned. Their superiority, however, for all the purposes of rural employment, is greatest to the cultivator whose capital is small, or scanty in proportion to the land that he tills; and this, after all, is the condition of our wealthiest planters.

I proceed to the detail of the cultivation practised upon the farm which was described in my former paper.

It is of 60 arpens (75 acres) in extent, of which a fourth part is in grass, the rest being in ploughed lands, generally planted: of which last about 10 (12½ acres) are sown in clover. This latter crop, with the hay of the meadows, feeds eight oxen and thirteen cows and yearlings; of which two are young oxen; together with an indifferent horse, employed only to go to market and to tread out the grain. In all, there are twenty-two head of cattle, nearly one to every arpen of forage land.

I need not describe their peculiar race of cattle, since we have them not in this country. They are, perhaps, superior to the English breeds, for purposes of draft, but much inferior for the milk pail. The Piedmont system, therefore, looks more to profit from the flesh than from the milk of the cows. Thus, on each farm, a pair of oxen is raised every year. In their third year, they are broken to the lighter labors of the farm. In the fourth and fifth, they are used for the heavier work. At five years old, they are fattened, bringing often 1000 or 1100 francs, (200 to 220 dollars,) and forming one of the farmer's best sources of income.

Each plough works over in the season 32 arpens, (40 acres.) Their plough is an admirable and peculiar one, which they manage with extraordinary skill. With it alone, their open crops are all cultivated. By it, and with a yoke of oxen, their maize is hoed and hilled up, with the greatest neatness and exactness, so as totally to destroy all grass or weeds; and their very fine Irish potatoes are also produced with this single implement.

Their course of crops is usually a four years' rotation.

First year, Maize, with manure,
French Beans,
Hemp,
Second year, Wheat,
Third year, Clover, ploughed in after the first mowing, and left fallow,
Fourth year, Wheat.

This system, productive as it is, (two wheat crops every four years) is found to sustain, without diminution, the fertility of the soil—a result, however, largely attributable to the manure furnished by a meadow mowed three times in the season, of which the hay is all returned by the cattle that it feeds, to the plough-lands.

The maize crop is regarded as a preparatory one. For it, all the manure is reserved; and its hoeings and hillings-up keep the land perfectly clean. Its produce is considerable, and makes, under various forms, the general food of the Piedmontese peasantry. With it, in the cultivation, they mingle an abundance of beans of different sorts, and a quantity of hemp.

The maize is got-in in September, and the soil is forthwith prepared for wheat. This is sown on very narrow beds, and covered in by the plough. No further attention is given it, till harvest, which comes about the beginning of July.

The wheat, as soon as under the porticoes of the court, it is dried by the heats of August, is threshed by a roller, drawn by a horse, and driven by a child, whilst the laborers shift the straw with forks. This operation lasts about two weeks, and is prompt, economical, and efficient.

The clover is sown in spring, among the manured wheat. The warm sun of Italy brings it into blossom early in the autumn, and it gives in October a good cutting; after which it serves with the meadow for a full pasture. In spring, it starts up afresh, flowers early, and gives a fine mowing; but the coming heats leaving no hope of another good growth, they make haste to plough it in: and thus the land has a fallow and three ploughings before the new sowing of wheat.

Thus, their course gives in four years, three crops of human food, one fallow, and two crops of food for cattle; besides the hemp crop, which is sometimes valuable, and those of silk, wine, vegetable fruits, poultry, calves, the produce of the dairy, and the profits from the fattening of beeves.

A farm, then, such as described, supports the farmer's family of eight or nine persons, feeds twenty-two heads of cattle, of which two oxen and one cow are fattened for market every year; gives a produce of silk worth fully 25 Lois d'ors; supplies more wine than the farmer uses; yields, in beans and maize, more than enough to support the cultivators; and sends to market the entire wheat crop, as well as a quantity of smaller articles of provision. After this, it is easily seen that the economy of cultivation is no where in the world better understood than in Piedmont; and the phenomenon of its great population and exports become intelligible enough.

I will endeavor, in a subsequent paper to pur-

sue those further points in this account of Italian cultivation, which seem to me likely to prove useful to your readers.—*Southern Agriculturist.*

Mode of Weaning and Rearing Calves by a

NORFOLK FARMER, ENG.

Mr. Whitley of Wallington did, between the first of December, 1776, and April, 1777, wean and rear on his farm ten cow calves and thirteen bull calves, by the method following: At three days old they were taken from the cows, put into a shed and fed with flet (skimmed milk) allowing three quarts to each calf morning and evening. When a month old, they were fed with a like quantity of milk and water, morning and evening, with hay to feed on in the day time; and at noon they were fed with oats and bran equally mixed, allowing half a peck to one dozen calves. At two months old they were fed only in the morning with milk and water; they had hay to feed on in the day time, and at evening instead of noon, had the same quantity of bran and oats with water to drink. They were fed in this manner until the middle of April, when they were turned out to grass all day; and taken into a shed at evening; and fed with hay until there was plenty of grass and the weather grew warm. Such of the calves as were weaned in March were continued to be fed with milk and water every morning until midsummer. All the said calves are in good health and condition; and the Society allowed the premium offered on that head the preceding year.—*Bath Soc. Papers.*

REARING CALVES, 1789.—In the year 1787, I weaned seventeen calves—in 1788, twenty—and in 1789, fifteen, do. I bought in 1787 three sacks of linseed. I put one quart of seed to six quarts of water, which by boiling ten minutes, became a good jelly; this jelly is mixed with a small quantity of the best hay steeped in boiling water. Having my calves drop at different times, I did not make an exact calculation of the expense of this hay tea; but of my sacks of seed I had better than two bushels left at last. I gave them the jelly and the hay tea, three times a day; to the boy who looked after them 6d a day; the price of the linseed was 4*s.* 6*d.* stg. per bushel; the whole three years seed 2*l* 5*s.* My calves are kept in good growing state; and are much better at this time than my neighbors, who are reared with milk; they do not fall off so much, when they come to grass.—*Bath Soc. Papers.*

Selection of Plums.

To those persons who feel lost in the labyrinth of a modern catalogue of fruits, the following selection of plums, of first rate excellence, for a small garden, may not be unacceptable.

Yellow fruited.	*Green Fruited.*
Washington	Green Gage,
Coe's Golden drop,	Imperial do.
Drap d'or,	Flushing do.
Yellow Gage.	Luscomb's Nonsuch.

Blue or Purple fruited.

Reine Claude Violette, or	Purple Gage,
Blue Imperiatrice,	Nectraine,
Kirk's,	Red Gage.
Imperial Diadem,	

The Reine Claude Violette, or Purple Gage, is one of the most delicious of plums. The Blue Imperiatrice is excellent, and keeps a long time after ripening. Coe's Golden drop and the Washington are very large and luscious fruit; and the Nectraine and Kirk's plum, are very beautiful, of large size, and fine flavored. The Azure Hative may, in addition to the above, be recommended as a very early variety, and the White Magnum Bonum, or egg plum, as being suitable for preserving.—*C. & J. A. Downing.*

From the Railroad Journal.

Marble Cement.

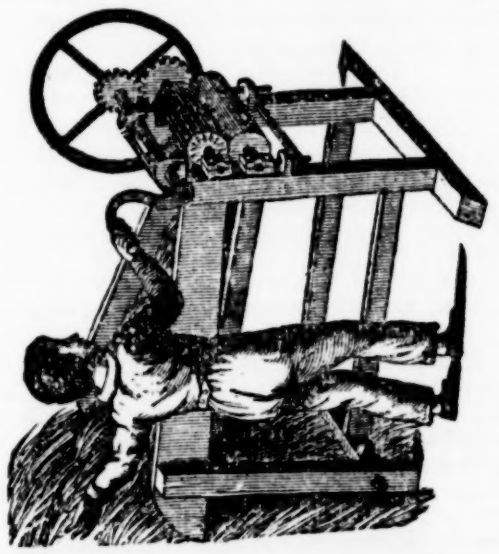
An important improvement, which has been for several years in progress, is about being introduced to the more general notice of the public, and we believe into extensive use for building purposes. It is a composition or cement, of which the principal ingredient is marble or lime stone, which, when applied to the inner or outer walls of buildings, presents the appearance of polished marble, of the various hues and qualities which distinguish the beautiful material imitated. What would be thought of a magician who possessed the power of changing the sombre brick and stone walls of the buildings of a city, in one week, into substances resembling the most beautiful Grecian, Italian, Egyptian or Verd Antique Marble, or porphyry, like the rock of Gibralter? Yet all this may be done by this invention of a humble citizen, of Orange county, in this State. This cement has been sufficiently tested by experiments on buildings, to satisfy practical men of its decided superiority over any other cement, stucco, or other hard finish for walls, hitherto known. In our next number we expect to be able to furnish the public with some interesting particulars, on this subject; and in the mean time we can state, that a company has been formed, in this city, to carry on the operations connected with the manufacture of this new cement, and its application to buildings. Those who are curious in these matters, may obtain further information in relation to it, by applying at this office, or at the office of Edwin Williams, over Leavett, Lord & Co., Broadway.

Preserving Cheeses.

For the benefit of the cheese-making sisterhood, please to insert in your valuable paper the following recipe, to prevent new made cheeses becoming fly-blown and maggoty. Take common garden peppers, let them be well dried and pulverized, then simmered in beacon-fat thirty or forty minutes. Strain the fat off through a thin cloth, and it will be fit for use.

When a cheese comes new from the press to the shelf, rub it all over with this preparation, and repeat it every time the cheese is turned, and 99 in a 100 will be preserved free from skippers. Dark rooms and screens are useless appendages to a cheesery, if this preparation be constantly and faithfully applied. A cheese room should have a window partly open day and night, and if a fly attempts to deposit its eggs in a cheese that has been well prepared in this way, it will "surely die" immediately.—*Yankee Farmer.*

Anderson recommends that Cows be milked three times a day in summer when full fed. If a cow is not milked dry each time, the quantity diminishes; and if milked dry, the best milk is obtained. The first cream which rises is the best.



Green's Patent Straw Cutter.

A new Invention, on a new Principle.

THE subscribers having obtained the exclusive right of making and vending the above machine for a large district of country, take the liberty of informing the public, that they have associated themselves under the firm of JAMES D. SHULER & Co. and have erected in the village of Lockport, Niagara Co. an extensive machine-shop, for the construction of this useful and deservedly popular machine, where it may be had at any time, warranted of good materials and construction, and so confident are they that it will suit purchasers that if they are not satisfied on trial, they may return the machine and the money will be refunded. As this machine when examined will recommend itself, the ordinary course of presenting certificates (although hundreds might be obtained) will not be resorted to, yet the subscribers conceive it their duty to give the public the following description and notice taken of it by public constituted societies. Price at shop $30. All expenses of transportation, &c. additional.

J. S. SHULER.
J. D. SHULER.

Extract from the Report of the Committee of the Brighton (Mass.) Fair, on Experiments, Discoveries and Inventions.

The Committee on Experiments, Discoveries and Inventions, respectfully report: That in the exhibition of Machines and Implements immediately useful to the farmer, there were several which deserve the patronage of the society, among which are the Straw Cutting Machine, invented by Benj. Greene and introduced to use in this state by J. R. Newall. In this Machine, the cutting is performed by a number of knife edges, which are fixed upon a cylinder.—These are, in rotation, brought in contact with a leaden cylinder, which acts as a block upon which the straw is cut. As the straw is drawn in between the cutting edges and the leaden cylinder, no separate feeding rollers are required. The machine is compact in its form and operates with great rapidity, by the application of a small force. The committee were led by the very strong evidence in its favor, from persons who had used it for many months, to award to its introducer the premium of $10.

WM. PRESCOTT,
DANIEL TREADWELL,
RICHARD SULLIVAN, } *Committee.*

Brighton, Oct. 14. 1835.

From the Cultivator.

GREEN'S STRAW CUTTER.—This is the most simple and efficient machine of the kind that has yet been offered to the public. It is made very strong, and not liable to become injured, nor to get out of order. The apparatus consists principally of two cylinders; the upper one is of iron, having the requisite number of knives set in groves. All that is necessary in operating is to put in the straw, and turn the crank. After the straw is once cut, it can be put in again, and cut with increased rapidity the second time.—More than double the quantity can be cut in the same space of time by this than by any other machine used in this section of the country.

I set a man at the crank, and with the hay close to the machine commenced feeding. With my utmost exertion I could not keep it regularly supplied. In five minutes, we cut *eleven bushels*, heaping measure, of hay. Had it been fed according to its power of execution, one fourth more would have been cut.—Had I used straw instead of hay the quantity cut in the above time, would have been as great, as it is more easy to supply the machine without interruption. It cuts corn stalks with rapidity, particularly small ones. The box is made large, and by putting in a good deal of hay at once, or by having it close to the machine, one person can feed it and turn the crank at the same time.

Extract from the report of the Committee of the Albany Fair on Farm Impliments, &c.

"GREEN'S STRAW CUTTER, presented by C. N. Bennett, was the only implement of the kind exhibited. It is a hand crank power. It is 5 feet long by 2 1-2 feet wide. It has 12 knives, 8 inches, on a 4 inch cylinder, and works upon a cylinder or roller of lead—will deliver two bushels of cut hay per minute—feeds itself and may be managed by a stout boy. Price, highly finished, $30. The committee do not hesitate to reccommend this as the most complete and perfect implement of the kind which has come under their notice. They have awarded to Mr. Green, a beautiful cake basket valued at $15, for the invention of his valuable machine.

J. BUEL, *Chairman.*

REYNOLS & BATEHAM, at the Rochester Seedstore are appointed agents for the sale of the above machines where a constant supply will be kept on hand.

Rochester, July 24th 1836.

CHAPTAL'S Agricultural Chemistry, price $1,25
Comstock on Silk, price 37 1-2 cts.
Cobb do. do.
Nuttall's Ornithology of Land Birds, price $2,50.
do. do. Water Birds, price $2,50.
Hind, Mason, and American Farriers.
Bushby on the Vine, price 50 cts.
Smith on the Honey Bee, price 37 1-2.
Fisher on the Vine, price 75 cts.
Also—Odd volumes of the Genesee Farmer.
For sale by HOYT & PORTER,
july 6 No. 6 State street.

From the U. S. Gazette..

The following sweet effusion first met our eye in the Lycoming Gazette, whose editor credits it to the Hon. Ellis Lewis, President Judge of the Court of Common pleas of that district. We are happy to trace the piece to such a source. Chief Justice Marshall amused his leisure with verse, and Judge Story is much in communion with the muse. Poetry acquires a new consequence, when it is thus commended to attention. The piece is classical, and carries with it the air and redolence of a Roman production. But it also breathes the spirit of a Christian and a father, a spirit that belongs to all climes and all ages, which inspires the orator and the poet with equal strength and greater *purity* than even love of country.

Interest, pride and authority mingle in half the evidences of affection which man exhibits to man, and the love of a mother for her son, though strong as death, is yet tinged with indiscrimination and sometimes with fear, though nothing quenches it; but a father's love for his daughter has in it all of delicacy, all of earthly purity, heightened by the sense and sweet evidence of her dependence; but that very delicacy, that very purity, on which it depends, which make it so dear, show that it hath a different tenure from a mother's love. Our idea is not entirely original, but it comes fresh to us in reading the outpouring of a father's feelings to a beloved and accomplished daughter; and it is, in our view, the highest attribute of classical attainment and poetic gift, that they may be made subservient to the cause of domestic affection, expressing and strengthening parental love; and we consider the poetry which a father writes to increase his daughter's worth and express his own feelings, like the fire which descended from Heaven, at once to inflame and approve the accepted sacrifice.

LIFE!—*Its Similitudes.*

FOR MY DAUGHTER'S ALBUM.

Lo! yonder silk-worm on the stand,
Pamper'd with leaves by careful hand;
Its end accomplished, see how soon
It finds its death in the cocoon.
Each fruit and ornamental tree,
Dreary and death-like now we see;
Foliage and fruit, and fragrant bloom,
Shrouded in winter's deepest gloom.
Behold, in view, that noble stream,
It glides and shines—a transient gleam;
Its name and pride soon find a grave
In broad Atlantic's ocean-wave.
The bubble on the current toss'd,
Grows bright and brief, and soon is lost;
The globule broke—the parts repair
Liquid to liquid—air to air.
Far in the east yon golden rav
Proclaims the brilliant Orb of Day;
He courses to meridian height,
Then sinks in western clouds of night.

The tree, the stream, the golden sun,
Are emblems of the course we run;
The bubble, too, so brief and light,
Is like this world—as empty quite;
The current glides like life away,
Tide and *Time*, for no one stay;
The highest and the haughtiest man
Is but a worm—his life a span.
So, dearest Juliet, must it be
With thee and thine, and all we see;
In health and hope we glare awhile,
Then "shuffle off this mortal coil,"
Ruturning to our mother Earth
The form she gave us at our birth.

But there is still a brighter place
For holy ones of human race;
For them the tree shall bloom again,
Its foliage shade the verdant plain;
Perennial, as around are seen
The *Laurel Pine* and *Evergreen*,
For them the sun shall cast his rays
In brighter, holier, happier days;
The stream of Time, its flow shall cease,
In one eternal sea of peace;
And sin and woe and war and strife
Shall vanish with the bubble life.
The outward film shall, in its fall,
The inward spirit disenthrall;
Like wing'd and seraph *butter-fly*,
No more a worm, it soars on high;
The disunited part shall go
Home to the source from whence they flow;
The body to its dark abode—
The SOUL *to wing its way to God.*

December 17, 1835.

Antipathy of the Rattlesnake to White Ash.

A writer in Silliman's Scientific Journal gives an account of an interesting experiment made upon the body of a large rattlesnake, a few years since, in the northern part of the state of Ohio.

The experiment which we are about to relate, was made about thirty years ago by Judge Woodruff, in order to test the accuracy of a prevailing notion among the people, that the leaves of the white ash were highly offensive to the rattlesnake, and that this horrid reptile was never found on land where the white ash grows. It is the uniform practice among the hunters who traverse forests in the summer, to stuff their boots and shoes and pockets with white ash leaves, for the purpose of securing themselves against the bite of the rattlesnake, and it is said that no person was ever bitten who had resorted to this precaution.

The account given by Judge Woodruff, mentions, that he was one of a small party who went to the Mahoning river for the pnrpose of hunting deer. The party took their station on an elevated spot, fifteen or twenty yards from the water's edge. Here the men watched for their wished for game about an hour, but instead of a harmless and beautiful deer, they saw a large rattlesnake which had crawled out from among the rocks beneath them, and was slowly making his way across a narrow, smooth sand beach, towards the river. Upon hearing the voices of the men, the snake halted and lay stretched out with his head near the water.

It was now determined to try the ash leaves. Accordingly search was made, and a small white ash sapling, eight or ten feet long, was procured, and with a view to make the experiment more satisfactory, another sapling of sugar maple was cut. In order to prevent the snake's retreat to his den, the Judge approached him in the rear, and when he had advanced within eight feet of him, the snake coiled up his body, elevated his head several inches, brandishing his tongue, and thus signifying his readiness for battle.

The Judge then presented his white ash wand, placing the leaves upon the body of the snake.

The snake instantly dropped his head upon the ground, unfolded his coil, rolled over upon his back, twitched and twisted his whole body in every form but that of a coil, and gave signs of being in great agony. The white ash was then laid by, upon which the snake immediately placed himself in a coil, and assumed the attitude of defence as before. The sugar maple stick was next used.

The snake darted forward in a twinkling, thrust his head into the leaves "with all the malice of the under fiends," and the next moment coiled and lanced again, darting his whole length with the swiftness of an arrow. After repeating this several times, says the Judge, I changed his fare—and presented him the white ash. He immediately doused his peak, stretched himself on his back, and writhed his body in the same manner as at the first application.

It was then proposed to try what effect might be produced upon his temper and courage by a little flogging with the white ash. This was administered. But instead of arousing him to resentment, proved only to increase his troubles. As the flogging grew more severe, the snake frequently stuck his head into the sand as far as he could thrust it, and seemed desirous to bore his way into the earth and rid himself of his unwelcome visiters.

Being now convinced that the experiment was a satisfactory one, & fairly conducted on both sides, we deemed it ungenerous to take his life after he had contributed so much to gratify our curiosity, and so we took our leave of the rattlesnake, with feelings as friendly at least as those with which we commenced our acquaintance with him, and left him to return at leisure to his den.

WILLIAM ATKINSON,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
17, *Exchange-street, Rochester.*

BUYS and sells Farms and City Property on commission, and attends to the collection of Mortgages.

☞ Several valuable Farms for sale.

February, 1836. feb 20f6m*

CLAIMS ON TRINITY CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK—At a large meeting of the descendants of Anneke Jants, held in the court room at Poughkeepsie, on the first day of July current, the subscribers were appointed their committee and agents, and directed to publish the proceedings of that meeting, which were as follows:

At a numerous meeting of the descendants of Anneke Jants, held at Poughkeepsie in Dutchess county, pursuant to public notice, on the first day of July 1836, Judge Trumpbour, of Saugerties in Ulster county, was called to the chair, and John Van Buren, esq. of Kingston in said county, was appointed secretary.

Mr. George Sullivan, of counsel for the heirs, being called upon to inform the meeting of the actual state and prospects of their claims, made a lucid and concise exposition of the rights of the claimants, the proceedings which had thus far been had in chancery, and presented a history of the claim from its earliest stages.

On motion it was unanimously resolved, that the descendants of Anneke Jants do unite in the prosecution of their claims against the Trinity Church of the city of New York, and persevere in it until the final decision of the highest tribunal of the state shall award them their rights, or decide that these are lost beyond recovery; and that a committee be appointed to take such measures for carrying into effect this resolution, as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That this committee consist of three persons, and that Judge Trumpbour of Saugerties, Ulser county, Peter Oakley, esq. of Fishkill, Dutchess county, and John L. Bogardus, esq. of the city of New York, be said committee.

Resolved, That said committee have full powers to carry out the objects of the foregoing resolutions, in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of the 10th of July 1830.

An agreement was drawn up and annexed to the original agreement providing for the raising of funds for the prosecution of the suit instituted by their counsel, Mr. Sullivan, and such other suits as he and said committee may deem expedient in the premises.

Resolved, That said committee have power to call meetings of the descendants of Anneke Jants, at such times and places as may be convenient, by public notice or otherwise.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the newspapers of this state, with a view to appriss all who are interested in these claims of the course intended to be pursued.

Jacob Trumpbour, Ch'n.
John Van Buren, Sec'y.

The subscribers, in further compliance with the wishes of the heirs assembled on this occasion, earnestly request, that all persons who are descendants from Anneke Jants, or connected by marriage with her descendants, will forward in writing their names and places of residence and their respective pedigrees, so that they may receive the circulars which the committee are preparing to send them. It has become important that all should specify, as soon as may be, their respective descents, so that their respective shares or interest in the property may be ascertained. These communications may be directed to either of the subscribers, who in return will send information from time to time, of the progress of the prosecution, its prospects, and the means relied upon for success. New York, July 7, 1836.

JACOB TRUMPBOUR
Saugerties, Ulster couuty.
PETER OAKLEY,
Fishkill, Dutchess county.
JOHN L. BOGARDUS,
General Land Office, 3 Clinton Hall.
Beekman street, New York.

july 16-afr7t